



Date: July 16, 2007

To: Anthony W. Batts, City Manager

From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: City Report For Weeks Ending July 6 and July 13, 2007

This *City Report* highlights various activities for the weeks ending July 6 and July 13, 2007. It is our hope that the *Focus on Results Long Beach* framework improves our ability to communicate information about the services we provide. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

IN THE NEWS

FOCUS AREA: LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

On Tuesday, July 3, the Long Beach City Council appointed Police Chief Anthony Batts to serve as City Manager until a permanent City Manager is hired. It is anticipated that the national search for a new City Manager will be completed within 90 days. Deputy Chief Robert Luna has been named Acting Chief of Police.

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE

Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe presented to Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster \$5 million in Proposition A funds to restore dozens of acres of historic wetlands in Long Beach along the Los Angeles River, acquiring land to be developed into greenspace linking existing parks, and developing other areas into park space. The \$5 million will be earmarked for the following projects: Drake/Chavez Greenbelt Land Acquisition, \$1 million; DeForest Wetlands Development, \$2.5 million; Wrigley Greenbelt Development, \$1 million; and Baker Mini-Park Development, \$500,000.

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Charter Communications Sea Festival

Approximately 3,000 people attended the *Pier Daze and Seafood Festival* at the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier from June 30 through July 1.

Approximately 2,000 people attended the *Pacific Open Water Challenge* on the beach south of the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier and on the beach bike path on July 1.

El Dorado Nature Center, in conjunction with Litter Free Long Beach and Sea Festival, hosted the second annual *Independence from Litter Day* along the beach at Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier. Hundreds of Boy Scouts, day campers, and students declared their independence from litter as they cleaned up the beach, learned about the watershed, explored the hands-on-tide pools at the Wonders of Water mobile classroom and met Mr. Scales, the City's anti-litter lizard mascot.

IN THE NEWS

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Charter Communications Sea Festival (continued)

The first departure for the prestigious *TransPac 2007* sailing race from San Pedro to Honolulu took place on July 9, and the second departure took place on July 12. The third and final departure took place on July 15. Most of the boats were moored in Long Beach at Rainbow Harbor, which was transformed into Transpac Village, complete with 11 monuments along the Transpac Walk of Fame.

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

Approximately 500 people attended Homeland Cultural Center's Second Annual Dance Festival that was held at the Scottish Rite Auditorium. This event featured various dance groups of Homeland Cultural Center.

**Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Charter Communications Sea Festival

The Mayor's Cup, one of the highest-graded international women's sailing races in the United States, is scheduled for **July 19 to 21**. Sailing on identical 37-foot sailboats, eight skippers and crews are pitted against each other in one-on-one matches south of the Belmont Pier.

The 2007 AVP Crocs Tour will stop in Long Beach for the *Bud Light AVP Long Beach Open* from **July 19 to 22**. Fans will have the opportunity to watch world-class beach volleyball and see Olympic medallists in action. Every tournament represents a fiercely pitched battle among the best beach volleyball players in the country, including Olympic Gold Medalists Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh, and Olympian Mike Lambert.

The *Long Beach Sea Festival Kiteboarding Challenge* will showcase the fastest growing water sport on the planet, along with clinics and demonstrations, **July 20 to 22** at the Granada Launch between the LaVerne and Granada Avenue parking lots.

Catalina Ski Club *Special Needs Children's Day* on **July 20** features a day of water-related activities at Marine Stadium for children with special needs,

The 59th Annual Long Beach-Catalina Water Ski Race on **July 21** features the world's best water skiers being towed by powerful, high-speed boats from Long Beach's inner harbor to Avalon and back.

For more information, visit www.seafestivallongbeach.com.

**Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS
(continued)**

FOCUS AREA: ENVIRONMENT

Port

For the safety of motorists traveling through the Port of Long Beach, the Port is taking steps to permanently close a short section of road, on Port property in West Long Beach, which is crossed by three active railroad tracks. The proposed closure would prohibit cars and trucks on Edison Avenue between Ninth and Pier B streets, a 200-foot section traversed by three street-level railroad crossings with no gates or warning signals such as flashing lights. By rerouting cars and trucks to viable alternate routes in the area, the closure would eliminate a safety hazard.

The Port has examined the project and prepared a "Negative Declaration" document under the California Environmental Quality Act, finding no significant environmental impacts from the closure. The Board of Harbor Commissioners released the Negative Declaration for a 30-day public review and comment on July 2, 2007. The Board is scheduled to hold a **public hearing July 16, 2007**, during its regularly scheduled meeting, to solicit public comments. The public can also submit written comments through August 3 addressed to Dr. Robert Kanter, Managing Director of Environmental Affairs and Planning, Port of Long Beach, 925 Harbor Plaza, Long Beach, 90802.

AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

FOCUS AREA: LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

Health and Human Services

Darryl M. Sexton, MD, City Health Officer, retired on July 6. Dr. Sexton served as an occupational health physician several years prior to his appointment as Health Officer in 1991. Helene Calvet, MD, has been appointed the new City Health Officer.

Human Resources

Dora Hogan, Manager of Employee Benefits and Equal Employment, recently received the Civic Leadership Award from the Disabled Resource Center. Ms. Hogan administers and coordinates Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) projects and funding related to programs, facilities, curb ramps and access to bus stops. She works closely with City officials and departments in a proactive manner to maximize responsiveness to issues of accessibility, facilities and employment. Ms. Hogan coordinates ADA activities and ensures that City programs are in compliance with the letter and spirit of federal and state ADA regulations, while facilitating the City's efforts to meet the needs of people in the community with disabilities. She serves as spokesperson on ADA issues and is lead staff support to the city's Citizens Advisory Commission on Disabilities (CACOD).

FOCUS AREA: NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSING

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

The City of Long Beach, Neighborhood Services Bureau received the John A. Sasso National Community Development Week Award in recognition of its National Community Development Week luncheon event, which recognized and honored those individuals, organizations, and agencies that have exemplified the true spirit of community development. For more information contact Martha_villacres@longbeach.gov.

MORE NEWS

FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Community Development, Economic Development

The Bureau was part of a special insert that was published in the July issues of both *Entrepreneur* and *Hemispheres* magazines. Sponsored by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, the insert promoted Los Angeles County as an ideal destination for working, living and playing. The insert targeted business attractions as well as conventions and tourism. *Hemispheres* is the in-flight magazine of United Airlines, which provided service for an estimated 6 million passengers during July. Please call 570.3800 for more information.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events

A cast and a crew of 25 filmed a TV production *Dismissed Again* on 1st Place at Alamitos Beach from July 10 to July 13.

A cast and a crew of 145 filmed a TV production *Dexter* on Shoreline Drive on July 12.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Fire

The Fire Department last week responded to a total of 1012 emergency calls for service: 99 calls for fires with 18 involving structures. It also responded to 821 emergency medical calls, 550 requiring paramedics.

During the previous week, the Fire Department responded to a total of 950 emergency calls for service: 109 calls for fires with 16 involving structures. It also responded to 759 emergency medical calls, 507 requiring paramedics.

Twenty community-minded Long Beach residents have graduated from the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. This free course teaches important disaster preparedness information such as: disaster preparedness; fire extinguisher training; disaster medical operations; search & rescue operations; organization & disaster psychology; terrorism; and bio-medical awareness. Additional information and registration for the CERT Program may be found on-line at www.longbeach.gov/fire/cert

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY

Health and Human Services

Staff from the Public Health Emergency Management Program, in collaboration with the Fire Department, taught 27 people the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Terrorism Course, which focused on personal, family and community preparedness.

Staff attended the *Planning for Pandemic Flu* regional workshop in Oxnard. The focus was to provide technical assistance to local health departments in developing the operational pandemic influenza plans that will be submitted to the California Department of Health Services in August.

More than 40 staff members and representatives from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and other health jurisdictions in Southern California participated in a *Pandemic Influenza Tabletop Exercise* focused on regional communication and coordination of public health emergencies. This exercise focused on the interoperable communication systems and capabilities for public health and its health care partners.

MORE NEWS
(continued)

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

Approximately 80 youth and their families enjoyed *July is Recreation Month* at Miracle on 4th Street Park. They were treated to a visit by LBPD's Herbie the Car, games, arts and crafts, and recreational fun.

Approximately 200 parents, relatives and friends attended a Winners Reaching Amazing Potential (WRAP) Summer Jam at the Cesar Chavez Park amphitheatre. Participants ate picnic dinners and were treated to performances by WRAP participants and staff from all the WRAP sites. The night ended with a viewing of a movie written and filmed by the Hudson WRAP program.

A total of 40 children, ages 7-13, are participating in the Little Linksters golf camp, which began on Monday, July 9, at Heartwell Golf Course.

Approximately 50 people took part in the El Dorado Nature Center's Annual Butterfly Count, which was held in conjunction with the North American Butterfly Association's count. Fourteen species were located at the Center, with a total of 158 individual butterflies. The restoration of some areas of the Center pursuant to the adopted Master Plan has aided in the expansion of butterfly populations in the area. With the addition of more plant species native to this region, it is hoped someday to have the return of all 35-butterfly species that formerly inhabited this area.

Approximately 800 youth and family members enjoyed the presentation of *Over the Hedge* as part of the Movies in the Park series at Bixby and Stearns Champions Parks.

FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

The 2007 Long Beach Golf Festival was held at the 37th Annual Men's City Championship at Recreation Park 18, El Dorado, and Skylinks Golf Courses.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

The first session of *Rancho Afternoons* began at Rancho Los Cerritos. The two-week program for children in grades 1-5 focuses on life in Old California. Children are learning about mapping a land grant, branding a steer, and celebrating the round-up, chores, meals, and other aspects of 19th century ranch life through hands-on activities, games, and studies of the adobe house and gardens. A second two-week session will begin **July 24**; reservations are required. To RSVP, call 570.1755.

Fifty-eight visitors took tours of the historic gardens at Rancho Los Cerritos. The tour was led by trained garden docents who shared information on the Temple's garden from the 1840s and the re-landscaping designs of Ralph Cornell in 1930, as well as key trees, shrubs, and garden elements. The next garden tour will take place on **August 5**. For more information, call 570.1755.

**MORE NEWS
(continued)**

FOCUS AREA: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health and Human Services

Approximately 65 community members attended a free, family-centered community health forum titled, *Motivating and Disciplining Your Child in a Positive Way*, at the Miller Family Health Education Center as part of *The Growing a Healthy Family Series*.. Two child therapists from the Miller Children's Abuse and Violence Intervention Center led the workshop, which included topics such as how to discipline a child and teen in a positive and healthy way, and the difference between discipline and abuse.

As part of the *Growing a Healthy Family Series*, approximately 50 people participated in *Nutrition and Physical Activity for the Whole Family*. The free forum focused on reading food labels, making smarter food shopping choices and providing ideas for kids to get more physical activity. The series is sponsored by a grant from the Earl B. and Loraine H. Miller Foundation

FOCUS AREA: NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSING

Community Development, Housing Services

As part of a national effort, the City proclaimed *Affordable Housing Week*, which included various housing-related activities such as: a tour of past, present and future affordable housing developments by the City of Long Beach and The Long Beach Housing Development Company (LBHDC), and the grand re-opening of Linden Gardens, a newly rehabilitated affordable rental development at 6371 Linden Ave. in North Long Beach. Affordable Housing Week concluded with a block party that included the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department's Mobile Rec Van and Skate Park on Wheels; dancers from the Homeland Cultural Center; booths displaying various services offered by the City and the LBHDC; and hot dogs provided by the Long Beach Fire Department. For more information please call 570.6949.

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

The West East-side Community Association (WESCA), in collaboration with the Neighborhood Services Bureau and Litter-Free Long Beach, recently hosted its monthly neighborhood clean up. More than 25 volunteers were out in the neighborhood streets, sidewalks, and alleys in a united effort to clean up the Cherry/Temple neighborhood by removing illegally dumped items, hazardous materials, trash and debris. A free barbecue was provided. For more information on this and future lean ups, please e-mail suzan_simaan@longbeach.gov or call 570.5087.

The newly established Bonito Avenue Neighborhood Watch Group, working in collaboration with the 7th Street Community Police Center (CPC), recently coordinated a neighborhood clean up and block party event. More than 60 community volunteers and 12 community service workers who were assigned by the City Prosecutor's office removed more than nine tons to trash, removed graffiti and helped refer property maintenance violations to the Code Enforcement Division. A barbeque celebration followed. The Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine brought out a mobile recreational vehicle filled with all kind of recreational activities. For more information contact Gonzalo_Sanchez@longbeach.gov.

MORE NEWS
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FOCUS AREA: NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSING (continued)

Community Development, Redevelopment

The results of the Central Project Area Committee (CPAC) elections at its 2007 Annual Meeting have been announced. Taking another turn as chair will be Pat Paris, who previously served for two years in that role. Also voted to the board of CPAC were members Annie Greenfeld-Wisner, vice-chair; David Carlton, financial officer; Lillian Parker, secretary; and Andrew Scammon, parliamentarian. CPAC is the group of community members from the Central Redevelopment Project Area who play a key role in forming the direction of redevelopment projects, helping to bridge the communication gap between the community and the agency.

Long Beach has three Project Area Committees: the North Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area Committee, the Central Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area Committee and the Westside Industrial Redevelopment Project Area Committee. Each Project Area Committee meets once a month. The public is invited to attend all meetings and get involved in removing blight. For more information please call 570.6615.

FOCUS AREA: UTILITIES

Long Beach Gas and Oil

Staff last week completed a total of 2,496 service calls. This total included 883 gas and water utility turn-ons, and 629 turn-offs. During this period, 575 customer service orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders and verifying read orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 285 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 124 emergency phone calls that resulted in 375 emergency orders being sent out.

The previous week staff completed a total of 2,327 service calls. This total included 860 gas and water utility turn-ons, and 715 turn-offs. During this period, 409 customer service orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders and verifying read orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 241 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 92 emergency phone calls that resulted in 343 emergency orders being sent out.

FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION

Street Construction Report

Changes to Existing Projects

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: 570.2060

West of Lakewood Blvd.

Estimated completion:

North of Euclid Ave. and South of Stearns St.

Early September

MORE NEWS
(continued)

FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION
Street Construction Report (continued)

Existing Projects

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: 570.2064

South of Broadway

Between Quincy Ave. and Covina Ave.

Estimated completion:

Mid July

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: 570.2064

West of Clark Ave.

at PCH and Park Ave.

Estimated completion:

Mid July

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Main and Service Replacement

Contact: 570.2064

6th St.

Between Termino Ave. & Roswell Ave.

Estimated completion:

Mid July

Water Department, Recycled Water Conversion of Bluff Park, Bixby Park, and Stearns Park

Contact: 570.2326

Ocean Blvd.

From Molino Ave. to Junipero Ave.

Junipero Ave.

From Ocean Blvd. to First St.

Estimated completion:

Late July

Water Department, Alley Service Connection Conversion - Earl and Locust Avenues Project

Contact: 570.2323

Pine, Earl and Locust Avenues

Between 21st St. and Burnett St.

Estimated completion:

October

AB:KP:

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager
Curtis Tani, Deputy City Manager
City Manager Department Heads
Tom Modica, Government Affairs Manager
Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Manager